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## ANTHROPOLOGIC MISCELLANEA

**Identification of Some Græco-Egyptian Portraits.**—The Græco-Egyptian paintings known as the Hellenic Portraits have engaged the interest of archeologists, artists, and art-historians since their discovery in 1887 and 1888. As is well known, they are bust-portraits, executed in encaustic or distemper, sometimes in a combination of the two, on thin panels of sycamore or cypress. They were intended to be portraits of deceased persons, and placed over the face of the mummy, being glued to the linen bandages which enwrapped the body. These paintings are ascribed to the Græco-Roman epoch of Egypt. From a religious point of view the portraits are an outgrowth from the ancient Egyptian custom of placing an effigy of the deceased at the head of the mummy or coffin in order to attract the *ka*, or spiritual double, to the body and thus preserve the individuality of the deceased. In early times this was not a portrait painted on the mummy case, but a molded mask decorating the head and end of it, while the lid of the case was shaped in imitation of the swathed corpse. Since the ninth century, B. C., the custom of encasing the mummy in a cartonage became general. On this cartonage shell the face of the deceased—a molded mask, gilt or colored—was usually placed. When Hellenism took root on the banks of the Nile and painters began to produce striking likenesses, a painting representing a real portrait of the deceased was substituted for the plastic head, with its mostly conventional features, as a habitation of the *ka*. The Hellenic Egyptians, and to a greater extent the Semites who are represented on these portraits, probably knew little of and cared less about the religious motive which had first required the attachment of an image to the mummy; but the custom appealed to their sentiment as a means and token of remembrance. The use of portraits on mummies is assumed to have continued until the edicts of Theodosius (392 A. D.) prohibited the worship of the genius to which the custom owed its origin.

Most of these portraits were found in the necropoles of Rubaiyat (the ancient Kerke) and Hawara, both places situated in the Fayum, the district which also yielded the largest supply of papyri. It was also in the Fayum, the ancient *nome*, or canton, of Arsinoitis, where, under the Ptolemies, the Greek element predominated. The portraits, however, are, as it were, international in their physiognomy. Besides Hellenized

Egyptians of Greek origin, they represent Græco-Egyptian half-breeds, others with an admixture of Ethiopian blood, and a rather large proportion of the Semitic race — Jews and Phœnicians. In all probability we have here a representation of the mixed population of cities. The paintings thus not only throw light on the pictorial technics of the Grecian artists, but also form a valuable contribution to anthropologic research, into what may be called the physiognomy of nations.

It has been noticed that most of the persons represented on the portraits appear to have belonged to a higher class. Many of the men wear aristocratic vestments, with laurel wreaths or gold fillets on the head and a ribbon across the breast, as indicating some office or station of dignity, so also the elaborate ornaments and jewelry worn by several of the women give evidence of superior rank.

Mr Theodor Graf, of Vienna, the owner of the largest and finest collection of these antique paintings from Rubaiyat (Kerke), believes that he has identified some of his portraits with those on coins, cameos, etc., which would show them to represent royal personages. According to this comparison, No. 4 of Graf's collection would represent Ptolemy Philadelphus, No. 5 Ptolemy Soter, No. 12 Queen Cleopatra, No. 15 Queen Berenice, No. 22 Ptolemy Philometor, No. 26 Ptolemy Euergetes, No. 28 King Perseus of Macedonia (compared with a bust in the Louvre), No. 43 Queen Cleopatra Tryphanea, No. 81 Queen Arsinoe. The finding of royal mummies and portraits in the remote Kerke (Rubaiyat) would be accounted for by some war or popular disturbance in Alexandria which might have prompted the removal of the royal bodies from their mansoleum to the secluded port in Middle Egypt, in order to protect them against plunder and desecration. In a letter accompanying the heliographs of the portraits in question, along with reproductions of the coins, Mr Graf cites, in support of his theory, several high authorities, among them the renowned paleographer Professor Julius Euting of Strassburg, and the painter, Professor Otto Donner von Richter of Frankfort.

We may be permitted to quote the closing remark of the late Professor Virchow in his paper on the subject (*Porträt-Münzen und Graf's hellenistische Porträt-Galerie*), read before the Anthropological Society of Berlin on May 18, 1901: "It was, in any case, a happy thought to adduce the coins for a comparison with the panel-pictures. The latter, executed in colors, afford without question a most clear illustration. They will preserve a lasting value not only for the history of the Ptolemies, but also for the ethnological knowledge of a period of Egypt so important for the development of culture. It would be of the greatest

importance for history if a whole series of the members belonging to a definite and, at the same time, so important a dynasty, could be presented to us in the color of the time and life." I. M. CASANOWICZ.

**West Indian Researches.** — Dr J. Walter Fewkes, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, has returned to Washington after four months' successful field-work in the West Indies. During the trip he visited Cuba, Jamaica, Porto Rico, Trinidad, and the Lesser Antilles, obtaining, from several localities, collections of prehistoric objects numbering several hundred specimens and including many varieties, some of which have not before been represented in the National Museum.

In the province of Santiago, Cuba, Dr Fewkes procured a small collection illustrating the stone-age culture of that part of the island. On account of the extreme rarity of prehistoric objects from Cuba, for the absence of which our museums have been noted, these objects are regarded as valuable additions. They belong, however, to an intrusive rather than to an autochthonous culture. It was found that at the time of the discovery the western and central parts of Cuba were inhabited by a very primitive people, with few arts, speaking a language different from that of the eastern provinces of the island, and whose culture was derived from neighboring islands. This primal Antillean population, also represented, at the time of the discovery, in the mountains of Haiti, was a cave-dwelling people who may be regarded as the oldest inhabitants of the islands; their kinship is unknown, for the few objects left by them are confused with those of later Indian occupants.

Dr Fewkes visited the larger of the Lesser Antilles, following the possible pathway of prehistoric culture migration from South America to Porto Rico, and special attention was given to the evidences of this culture on the several islands from Trinidad to St Thomas. A fair collection of prehistoric objects was obtained on Trinidad island, which formed the gateway of this culture migration, thus giving special significance to its antiquities. The survivors of the Trinidad Indians were studied by Dr Fewkes; these now reside at the old town of Arima, and while it was found that they had lost their native language, they yet retain some of their aboriginal arts.

Archeological collections were obtained also in Grenada, Barbados, and St Vincent, which lay in the way of prehistoric migration between Trinidad and Porto Rico. The collection from the island last named, which included that of Sr Eduardo Neuman, of Ponce, is particularly rich in unique stone objects from the southern and western ends. In ad-

dition to numerous duplicates, it contains six stone "collars" or rings, fifteen mammiform idols (several of which are among the finest yet discovered), stone masks, bird stones, amulets, and effigy vases. An old shrine in a cave at Cayuco, near Utuado, Porto Rico, yielded a small globular vase containing two strings of finely polished stone beads (one of the strings being six feet in length), as well as several sacrificial objects. A preliminary examination was made of some of the more important shell-heaps on the southern shore of Porto Rico, especially of the one at Cayito, near Santa Ysabel, and of others on the Rio Coamo. Several large shell-heaps were discovered more than five miles from the shore near the Coamo hot springs, the contents of which indicate that they were reared by a people using polished stone implements and finely painted pottery ornamented with relief decorations. Fragments of human bones associated with burnt wood and ashes were also found embedded in the shell-heaps.

Particular attention was given to pictography on the various islands, and to a comparison of forms and designs on aboriginal pottery. The prehistoric inhabitants of the Lesser Antilles, from Trinidad to Porto Rico, were found to be expert potters whose productions exhibit high artistic development. Dr Fewkes believes that he has gathered sufficient evidence to prove the existence in the West Indies of a cave-dwelling people who antedated a more advanced population. Survivors of this cave people lived in Cuba and Santo Domingo toward the close of the fifteenth century, but few evidences of them are now to be found, as their arts were simple and limited in scope. Side by side with the cave-dweller culture was a later and higher culture, dominant on the eastern end of Cuba, the germ of which came from South America and reached its greatest development, which was characteristic and unique, in Porto Rico and Santo Domingo.

Light is thrown by the material collected on the relation of the Caribs to the earlier inhabitants of the islands, both savage and cultivated. A description of these collections and their bearings on race migration and culture development will be published later by the Bureau of American Ethnology.

**Some Brain-weights in the Negro Race.**<sup>1</sup>—Soon after the close of the Civil War the writer was one of three attachés of the United States Army Medical Museum to make a series of one hundred post-mortem examinations on the freedmen at Freedmen's Hospital, Washington. The brain-weights were taken in ounces and fractions of an ounce. In eleven

<sup>1</sup> Read before the Anthropological Society of Washington, May 3, 1904.

cases the weight was not taken, or at least was not recorded. These persons were not all pure negroes, but the record does not show definitely the proportion of admixture of white blood, and at this distance of time the memory fails on this point. It may be stated, for comparison, that the average brain-weight in white subjects, according to most anatomists, is about  $49\frac{1}{2}$  oz. for men and  $44\frac{1}{2}$  oz. for women — about 5 oz. difference between the sexes, due largely, of course, to difference in stature and body-weight. The brain-weight increases rapidly up to the seventh year, more slowly to between 16 and 20, still more slowly to between 30 and 40, at which time it reaches its maximum and afterward begins to decrease, losing about one ounce for each decade. Of course, in comparing the brains of whites with those of freedmen, it must be remembered that the freedmen had but recently been released from slavery, and slavery meant both the absence of education and of the opportunity for mental advancement except along narrow lines.

In 39 of the 89 cases (44 per cent.) in which the weight was taken, the weight was 45 oz. or more; in 10 cases (11 per cent.) 50 oz. or more, which is more than that of the average white brain. Twenty of the 89 individuals were less than 20 years of age. In two children 13 years of age the weight was 46 oz.; in one of 15 years it was  $44\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; in two of 17 years it was  $48\frac{1}{4}$  and 50 oz., respectively; in one of 18 years,  $46\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; in three of 19 years it was  $44\frac{1}{2}$ , 45, and 48 oz., respectively. In three cases the weight was 50 oz., in one case  $50\frac{1}{2}$ , in two cases 51, in two cases 53, in one case 54, and in one case 56 oz. As stated above, these weights are above the weight of the average white brain.

In 17 cases the age of the individual was not noted, but was stated in the case of 43 men and 9 women, who were more than 20 years. In these latter the average brain-weight for men was 45 oz., for the women 39.7 oz., or a little more than 5 oz. difference.

Of five men 60 years old or more, the brain-weight was as follows: One man of 60 years, 40 oz.; one man of 71 years,  $45\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; one man of 72 years, 42 oz.; one man of 89 years,  $39\frac{1}{2}$  oz.; one man of 105 years, 41 oz. The last mentioned was named Washington, perhaps one of the old Mount Vernon slaves; his brain-weight was probably equal to that of the average white at this extreme age, although there are naturally few opportunities of obtaining brain-weights of centenarians. The ages given cannot, of course, be vouched for, especially as it is well known that at the time referred to the Negro was inclined to exaggerate his age after reaching 60 years.

Other things being equal, the brain-weight and the mental capacity,

in my opinion, bear a definite relation to each other ; and the facts above presented would seem to show a high degree of mental capacity in the negro.

D. S. LAMB.

**The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society**, of Wilkes-Barré, Pa., has lately doubled its ethnological collections by the gift of the valuable collection of Indian relics from the watershed of the Susquehanna, gathered through some years of work by Mr Christopher Wren, of Plymouth, Pennsylvania. The collection is exclusively Pennsylvanian and contains 7,000 specimens, many of the finest quality. One case, containing a small part of the relics, shows the crude brown flint, black flint, and red jasper, from quarries adjacent to Wyoming valley, with every stage of manufacture of the blades and arrowpoints from this material. The Society has also lately acquired by purchase the very rich collection of Mr A. F. Berlin, of Allentown, Pa., who has spent thirty years in its formation. Of the 3,000 objects in this collection, 1,200 are from the interior of Pennsylvania and the remainder from adjacent states. They consist of hoes and axes from half a pound to fourteen pounds in weight, agricultural blades fourteen inches long, discoidal or chungke stones of the finest finish, ceremonial and bird stones of polished banded slate, blades and knives of exquisite shape, and polished pieces of every variety of material and workmanship. This is the finest private collection the writer has ever seen. During the last year the Society has also created the "Zebulon Butler Collection," which now numbers a thousand local specimens, and two other small but excellent collections have increased the additions to the cabinets to more than 12,000 objects. The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society has what has been pronounced by Mr Stewart Culin the finest collection of Algonquian pottery in the United States, numbering fifteen whole vessels from the Wyoming Valley section.

HORACE EDWIN HAYDEN, *Corr. Sec'y.*

**The Brain-weight of Dr Taguchi.** — Dr Kazuyoshi Taguchi, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College of the Imperial University of Tokio, is perhaps the first of his race to bequeath his own body to his colleagues for the purpose of dissection. His work on the brain-weight of the Japanese is the most extensive yet published, and it is noteworthy that his own brain is the heaviest on record among the Japanese, namely, 1920 grams, or 67.7 ounces avoirdupois. In the list of eminent men (now 107 in number) it occupies second place, the brain of the Russian poet and novelist Tourgeneff (2012 grams) being the only one superior to it in this

respect.<sup>1</sup> The report of the post-mortem examination by Dr Yamagiwa, president of the University, mentions Taguchi's age as 66 years, and the body-weight as 108 pounds. Cirrhosis of the kidney with complications caused death.

EDWARD ANTHONY SPITZKA.

**Stephen Powers**, author of "Tribes of California," published in 1877 as volume III of *Contributions to North American Ethnology*, and of numerous articles on the Indians of California which appeared in the *Overland Monthly*, died at Jacksonville, Florida, April 2. Mr Powers was born at Waterford, Ohio, in 1840, and was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1861. At the time of his death he was editor of the *Florida Farmer and Fruit Grower* and agricultural editor of the Jacksonville (Florida) *Times-Union*.

DR C. V. HARTMAN, curator of archeology and ethnology in the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburg, has removed the collection of Costa Rican antiquities made by Padre José Maria Velasco from the archeological department of the Free Museum of Science and Art in Philadelphia to the Carnegie Museum at Pittsburg. This collection, together with another scarcely less important collection made by Padre Velasco, supplemented by the Troyo, the Ferraz, and other collections recently acquired by the museum, give this institution the largest assemblage of Costa Rican antiquities in existence outside of Costa Rica. In fact, the Carnegie Museum possesses more specimens of Costa Rican antiquities than are found in all the museums of the world put together.—*Science*.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS.—At the Fourteenth Session of the International Congress of Americanists to be held at Stuttgart, in August, Mr W. H. Holmes will represent the Smithsonian Institution, Dr Franz Boas and Prof. Marshall H. Saville the American Museum of Natural History, and Dr G. A. Dorsey and Dr C. W. Currier the Field Columbian Museum and the Catholic University of America, respectively. These gentlemen and the Duc de Loubat have also been appointed delegates on the part of the United States Government.

DR JUAN F. FERRAZ, the Director of the Museo Nacional of Costa Rica at the time of its consolidation with the Instituto Fisico-Geográfico Nacional at San José, died in February last. Dr Ferraz will be remembered for his interest in Central American archeology and ethnology. His last visit to this country was for the purpose of attending the session of the International Congress of Americanists at New York in 1902.

<sup>1</sup> See *American Anthropologist*, vol. v, No. 4, pp. 595-596, table; also "The Brain-weight of the Japanese," *Science*, Sept. 18, 1903, pp. 371-373.



THE SEVENTY-FIRST SESSION of the Congrès Archéologique de France will be held at Puy (Haute Loire), France, June 21-28. M. Eugène Lefèvre-Pontalis, of Paris, president of the Société Française d'Archéologie, is president of the congress, and M. A. Jacotin, of Puy, is general secretary. The subscription is 10 francs.

DR WALTER HOUGH, of the U. S. National Museum, is conducting archeologic researches in the little-known section of southwestern New Mexico, and MR STEWART CULIN, of the Brooklyn Institute of Science and Arts, is engaged in making ethnologic collections in the same territory.

AT THE RECENT council meeting of the American Anthropological Association, held at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, Dr George Grant MacCurdy was elected secretary of the association, *vice* Dr A. L. Kroeber resigned.

DR ALEŠ HRDLÍČKA, of the United States National Museum, has been elected a corresponding member of the Czecho-Slavonic Ethnological Society of Prague.

THE PUBLIC PRESS announces the death, at Cox rancheria, near Ukiah, California, May 25, of Charles Penio, the oldest chief of the Ukiah tribe. Penio was reputed to have been 107 years of age.

DR HENRY F. PITTIER has resigned the directorship of the Instituto Físico-Geográfico Nacional, of Costa Rica, and will spend the next few months in the United States.

PROF. EDWARD S. MORSE, of Salem, Mass., and Dr W. J. Holland, of Pittsburg, Pa., have been elected corresponding members of the Swedish Society of Anthropology and Geography.

MR ADOLPH F. BANDELIER has been engaged by Columbia University for next year as lecturer on "The Value of Spanish-American Literature for American Ethnology and Archeology."

DR W. C. FARABEE, instructor in anthropology at Harvard University, is to conduct a party of students on an anthropological trip through the southwest during the summer.

BEGINNING WITH the current year the *Archiv für Religionswissenschaft* has been edited by Dr Albrecht Dieterich of Heidelberg and Dr. Thomas Achelis, and published by B. G. Teubner of Leipzig, Germany.

CHARLES A. DILG, for many years interested in the prehistory of the vicinity of Chicago, died in that city April 29, aged 59 years.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCHEOLOGY will be held at Athens in April, 1905.